

REMARKS

A Notice of Allowance has been received in the above-identified application, but the issue fee has not, as yet, been paid. References AAA, AAB and AAC cited on the information disclosure submitted on April 12, 2000 were lined-through and not considered for various formal reasons. The Applicants herewith provide a copy of reference AAB (Medline search) and a brief explanation of the relevance of references AAC and AAD.

AAC (SPF, Japan SLC, Inc.) is a standard of Japan SLC Inc, experimental animal superior and was used for the explanation of the SPF condition.

AAD (CRJ Letters, Vol. 11, No. 1) is titled "NC/Mga mouse useful as an experimental model for atopic dermatitis". It compares the conventional NC/Nga mouse, which is bred in normal condition, and the SPF NC/Nga mouse, which is bred under the SPF condition. It concludes that NC/Nga mice spontaneously develop the dermatitis and its symptoms resemble human atopic dermatitis (AD) from various data such as pathological diagnosis, plasma IgE level, and so on. Also, it cited Hiroi et al., Jpn. J. Pharmacol. 76:175-183 (1998), which has already been considered by the Examiner. It demonstrates the usefulness of the NC/Nga mouse as an AD model. Figs 9 and 10 of this reference are the same as Fig. 1 and 3, respectively, of Hiroi et al.

A copy of Form 1449 originally submitted on April 15, 2000 is attached for the convenience of the Examiner.

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate that references AAB, AAC and AAD have been considered, prior to issuance of this application as a patent.

In view of the nature of the errors no new search is required.

Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Customer Number

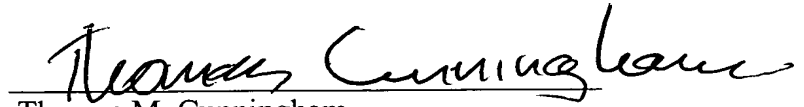
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(OSMMN 06/04)

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas M. Cunningham", written over a horizontal line.

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